

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

2. Claims 1, 2, and 24-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP60-78683 (reference “D1” from International Preliminary Examination).

JP60-78683 (reference made to English language abstracts) discloses the process as claimed including treating elemental mercury (“lamps contg. Mercury”) with cementitious particulate (“cement”) and immobilization (i.e. with “sulfur”).

3. Claims 1 and 3-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by KR2002044753 (reference “D2” from International Preliminary Examination).

KR2002044753 (reference made to English language abstracts) discloses the process as claimed including treating elemental mercury with cementitious particulate (“cement” and/or “organic polymer”) and immobilization (“amalgam” with “copper, tin zinc”).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Kreck whose telephone number is 571-272-7042. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 6am-3pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, David Bagnell can be reached on 571-272-6999. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3672

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/John Kreck/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3672

4 June 2010